

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JERUSA 01445 091433Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SSM-05 TRSE-00 /073 W

-----030092 100015Z /72

R 091350Z SEP 77

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9436

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 1445

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, PINT, XF

SUBJECT: WEST BANK PRESS REACTION TO CARTER INTERVIEW

1. PRESIDENT CARTER'S INTERVIEW ON MIDDLE EAST PROVIDES FRONT-PAGE COPY FOR ALL THREE EAST JERUSALEM ARABIC DAILIES SEPTEMBER 9.

2. AL QUDS (MODERATE AND PRO-JORDANIAN) BANNER READS: "CARTER THREATENS TO ABANDON PEACE EFFORTS" ... "THE PALESTINIAN HOME-LAND A PLACE TO LIVE". REUTERS STORY GIVES PROMINENCE TO PRESIDENT'S CONCERN FOR ELEMENTS OF PEACE AND NECESSITY FOR ARAB STATE TO GO BEYOND ACCEPTANCE OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST.

3. AL FAJR (LEFTIST AND PRO-PLO) REPORTS MORE AGGRESSIVELY: "CARTER ADOPTS THE ISRAELI STAND AND ATTACKS PLO FOR ITS REJECTION OF 242". UNATTRIBUTED REPORT DATED WASHINGTON BEGINS "INDICATIONS HAVE BEGUN TO REVEAL THE AGGRESSIVE NATURE OF AMERICA'S MIDDLE EAST POLICY TOWARDS THE ARAB STATES IN GENERAL AND TOWARDS THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN PARTICULAR. AT THE SAME TIME. AMERICA'S ABSOLUTE COMMITMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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TO A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN ISRAEL'S INTERESTS IS HIGHLIGHTED..."

4. IN ITS EDITORIAL, AL QUDS EXPRESSES DOUBT THAT AMERICA CAN AFFORD TO ABANDON ITS PEACE EFFORTS CONSIDERING ITS INTERESTS IN THE ARAB STATES. NEVERTHELESS, ITS CONFIDENCE IS EVIDENTLY SHAKEN. "WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO WONDER WHERE THE AMERICAN POLICY IS TAKING US AND WHAT WILL BE THE FATE OF THE GREAT HOPES SOME OF

US HAVE BUILT ON THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION AND ITS INFLUENCE WITH ISRAEL," IT CONCLUDES.

5. ASHA'B (INDEPENDENT AND NATIONALIST) INTERPRETS CARTER'S STATEMENTS AS SURRENDER TO ISRAELI PRESSURE AND CALLS FOR THE ARABS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY UPON THEMSELVES. "THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S DRAMATIC RETREAT FROM HIS ANNOUNCED POSITION AND PEACE EFFORTS DOES NOT FREIGHTEN THE ARABS...THE LEAST THAT CAN BE SIAD OF THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT OR AMERICA'S PEACE POLICY IS THAT IT HAS BEEN SCATTERED IN THE WIND AND THAT THE ARABS ARE FREE TO FOLLOW THE PATH WHICH WILL RESTORE TO THEM THEIR RIGHTS AND LAND."
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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